# County of Kern

# Public Safety Realignment Act FY 2019/20 Plan

(Approved by CCP July 3, 2019)
(Approved by Kern County Board of Supervisors July 16, 2019)



# Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee

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## **AB 109 Background**

Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109), the Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011, was signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown on April 4, 2011. It became effective on October 1, 2011. This Act, along with numerous trailer bills, made major changes to the criminal justice system in California. With these changes has come a large shift of responsibilities passed from the State to the Counties.

Some of the most significant changes in the law that Realignment brought include the following:

- Certain felonies, often referred to as Non, Non, Nons (non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex offenses), are no longer punishable by a state prison term. Instead, these felony charges are only eligible for county jail sentences.
- Certain offenders released from State prison are no longer released on State parole but instead are released on "Post Release Community Supervision" (PRCS). These offenders are supervised by the Probation Department.
- Most offenders on State parole and all offenders on PRCS will now serve time in county jail for violations instead of State prison.
- The Court and not the State Parole Board began hearing violations of PRCS offenders. On July 1, 2013, the Court also began hearing violations of offenders on State Parole.
- The law states that counties should focus on using alternative sanctions and evidence-based practices in order to more effectively reduce recidivism (PC 17.5).

AB 109 also created the Executive Committee of the previously established Community Corrections Partnership (CCP). This committee is responsible for creating and presenting a plan to the County Board of Supervisors regarding allocation of funds and implementation of policies and procedures related to Realignment. The plan is deemed accepted unless the Board of Supervisors rejects the plan with a four-fifths vote against. In such a circumstance, the plan is returned to the CCP for further consideration.

## **Existing Implementation**

Each fiscal year since October 1, 2011, the Kern County Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved the Kern County Public Safety Realignment Act Plan as recommended by the Executive Committee of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) as mandated by Penal Code Section 1230.1. These plans have directed funding to numerous county agencies and community organizations to account for the additional public safety burden placed on the County. The plans included a mix of intense supervision, evidence-based assessments and treatment, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, a day reporting center, increased jail capacity, jail incarceration alternatives, employment services, community-based organizations, District Attorney and Public Defender staff, and multiagency law enforcement operations.

The CCP understood from the beginning that the Realignment process would evolve and change as it moved forward. The CCP acknowledged the need to be flexible in its approach to address aspects of Realignment as the practical and logistical realities presented themselves. The keys to making Realignment successful include the collection of data, communication between community partners, and a willingness to find solutions which best benefit our community.

There have been both successes and struggles since the beginning of Realignment. Challenges include the sheer number of realigned offenders continues to be significantly higher than projected (Tables 1 and 2). These higher than anticipated numbers put a strain on all CCP partners in the form of higher supervision caseloads and increased need for a variety of community services. The limited amount of State dedicated funds for Kern County has also been a challenge. This puts Kern County at a disadvantage compared to other counties who have considerably more resources to devote to services. The CCP developed a strategic plan to address the performance elements which will impact the amount Kern receives in Growth funding (the strategic plan is discussed in greater detail below). While Kern County has taken many positive and innovative steps to address Realignment, additional steps are needed; however, limited funding may restrict implementation.

There have been many positive actions taken by the CCP in response to Realignment. All parties involved in implementation have been fully engaged and worked together to make this difficult transition as successful as possible. By incorporating AB 109 legislative intent and ideas, Kern County is currently doing the following:

- Implementing evidence-based programs that have more long-lasting positive results
- Utilizing Sheriff's Virtual Jail to allow and monitor conditional releases, which can save millions of dollars compared to incarceration
- Improving interdepartmental cooperation in addressing specific issues and goals to improve communication, form partnerships, and expand services
- Creating employment services and paid work-experience program
- Initiating Pre-Trial Release Program
- Reorganizing department workloads and units for maximization of efficiency related to implementation of AB 109 programs

- Operating the Day Reporting Center, which produces pivotal changes in anti-social behaviors of offenders
- Expanding in-custody educational, vocational, and evidence-based programs to provide the necessary tools to reduce recidivism
- Utilizing the community-based organizations (CBO) program, which provides a multitude of services to offenders
- Applying information gained from the Results First criminal justice system benefit-cost analysis developed through collaboration with the national Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative
- Operating the Probation Department's Adult Programs Center, which has an emphasis on evidence-based programming focused on changing anti-social behavior

Moving forward, this year's plan will continue and expand on its successes while also addressing the challenges noted above. The CCP is dedicated to ensuring Realignment will be as successful as possible. Reviewing and revising the plan each year, provides the impetus for a strategic continuous improvement process.

Table 1 – PRCS and Mandatory Supervision Offenders (Sentenced under 1170-h)

	PRCS	PRCS Population*	Offenders	MS Population*
Time Period	Packets	(Snapshot as of	Sentenced to	(Snapshot as of
	Received	May 31, 2019)	MS	May 31, 2019)
Oct 2011-May 31, 2019	7,612	1,593	2,630	954

<sup>\*</sup>Includes those on warrant status

Table 2 – AB 109 Population Impacts to Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO)

Time Period	Parole Violators Received	Probation PRCS Violators PC 3455(A)	Probation Flash Violators PC 3454(C)	AB 109 NNN Population Received	Total AB 109 Population Impact to KCSO
Oct 2011-May 31, 2019	19,294	10,365	1,995	8,319	39,973

# Strategic Plan for Factors Affecting Growth Funds

In October 2014, the CCP approved the establishment of an Ad Hoc Strategic Planning committee to develop a strategic plan specifically to address the factors affecting AB 109 Growth funds which become performance-based beginning with the Growth funds received in the Fall of 2016. In December 2014, the CCP contracted with a consultant to assist in the development of the plan. From January to May 2015, over 250 various community, agency and offender stakeholders were engaged through personal interviews and surveys. Many of them also participated in one of three stakeholder sessions which elicited their input regarding gaps, barriers, community resources, and innovative programming for the criminal justice community of Kern County. Their input was captured into five key focus areas. From the data collected, the Ad Hoc committee developed Mission, Vision, and Values statements (listed below) which were approved at the July 15, 2015, CCP meeting. The Strategic Plan is in final draft form and will be an on-going document as the CCP proceeds with refining and further developing Strategic Plan initiatives.

The Strategic Plan was relied heavily upon when determining the focus areas for the Request for Applications (RFA) released in September 2015, and the Request for Proposals (RFP) released in June 2016 and June 2018. The CCP will continue to utilize the Strategic Plan when determining areas of need for the adult criminal justice population.

#### Mission:

The Community Corrections Partnership is committed to working together in order to promote a safer community through effective strategies.

#### Vision:

The Community Corrections Partnership provides leadership through the partnering agencies and partnerships with the community to encourage, support, and network effectively for a safer community by doing the following:

 Decrease criminal recidivism through data-driven decision making which addresses substance abuse, criminogenic factors, and mental health issues

- Increase offenders' successful reintegration into the community using research-based strategies and interventions
- Encourage and support effective prevention strategies for members in the community
- Create opportunities for self-sufficiency among offenders

#### Values:

<u>Community Safety</u>: The CCP is committed to decisions which prioritize a safe and secure community, which increases the quality of life for all people in Kern County.

<u>Accountability</u>: The CCP holds itself and its partners to all established standards, agreements and policies.

<u>Fiscally Responsible</u>: The CCP believes in being good fiscal stewards of the public funds entrusted to the Partnership.

<u>Research Matters</u>: The CCP recognizes the importance of outcome-driven decision making by implementing current research and evidence-based practices.

<u>Transparency</u>: The CCP meetings are open to the public, all reports and agendas are available for review, and public input is welcomed.

<u>Change</u>: The CCP acknowledges people can change when they are willing and provided the opportunity and resources to succeed.

## **Evidence-Based Programming**

Realignment encourages counties to focus on community-based corrections programs and evidence-based practices. To this end, Kern County has focused on the use of proven assessment tools, evidence-based practices, and the addition of evidence-based programs specifically to reduce recidivism and ensure public safety.

The Kern County Probation Department and Sheriff's Office utilize the Static Risk and Needs Assessment (SRNA). The SRNA can accurately predict the level of an offender's risk to recidivate which allows targeted supervision for those at higher risk to re-offend. These departments have also implemented the dynamic needs portion of the assessment tool, the Offender Needs Assessment (ONA). The ONA is a critical aspect of Programming and Supervision plans that focus on addressing the specific criminogenic needs of the offender.

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services' (KernBHRS) Substance Use Disorder Division bases screening and assessment on the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria that covers six dimensions including withdrawal potential, biomedical conditions, psychiatric conditions, motivation for recovery, relapse or other problem potential and recovery environment. The Stressful Life Experiences Screening (SLES) is utilized in Substance Use Disorder treatment programs in order to gauge trauma that individuals may have experienced and to address it in a trauma-informed environment. These tools are strength-based, multidimensional assessments that address the patient's needs, barriers, liabilities, and willingness to participate in treatment. The screening tools also incorporate clients' strengths, resources, and support structure within their environment. These assessments are utilized in the creation of treatment plans in order to accurately place individuals into programming. Departments are committed to continuing to increase the use of assessments in the upcoming year.

In addition to utilizing these various assessment tools, Probation Officers, Sheriff's Deputies, and KernBHRS staff have been trained in Motivational Interviewing (MI). MI is a conversational method that assists staff with developing intrinsic motivation within clients in order to change behavior. Once a Supervision, Programming, and/or Treatment plan is developed individuals are referred to various evidence-based programs.

Evidence-based programs are valuable assets due to their significant reduction of recidivism when completed with fidelity. The Probation Department's Adult Programs Center (APC) provides validated evidence-based programs to address specific criminogenic needs. APC offers Thinking for a Change (T4C), Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), and utilizes Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) which is an evidence-based approach to case management.

The Sheriff's Office Programs Unit of the Compliance Section has partnered with the KernBHRS' Substance Use Disorder Division and Correctional Behavioral Health to provide evidence-based curriculum to individuals in custody. Inmates are offered ART, Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Matrix Program, MRT, Seeking Safety, and T4C. The classes equip offenders with new ways of

thinking, substance use disorder treatment, cognitive behavioral therapy and coping skills. KernBHRS also provides these programs as out-patient services after release from custody.

Joint Evaluation Teams (JET) are AB 109 co-response teams uniquely qualified to assess the individual's crisis care service needs and simultaneously address public safety. Each co-response team is comprised of a staff member from KernBHRS and an officer from the Sheriff's Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) or Bakersfield Police Department (BPD). JET responds to crisis situations and visits a prioritized list of AB 109 individuals with mental health and/or substance use disorder issues. This collaborative approach places a law enforcement officer and member of KernBHRS in the same vehicle for the first time in Kern County, increasing the level of collaborative crisis care services. This collaboration leads to better service for individuals in crisis and heightened public safety.

A key component to the success of evidence-based programming is attributed to the collaboration between CCP agencies. The Probation Department shares data such as SRNA scores with the Sheriff's Office which is used as an added element for release and programming decisions. There is also a high level of inter-departmental cooperation between the Sheriff's Office and KernBHRS.

Many evidence-based programs offered to clients are facilitated by CCP agencies. These collaborative efforts foster greater communication and helps contribute to the success of programs. The increased use of evidence-based tools and inter-departmental cooperation is a positive by-product of Realignment.

## Data Collection, Research, and Analysis

AB 109 compelled department heads to examine the cooperation, coordination, and collaboration between county agencies. These department heads aspired to understand what impact AB 109 would have on individual departments and the county as a whole. Each department assigned key knowledgeable staff to work together, formulate innovative ideas, make decisions quickly, and produce results.

In October 2011, the Probation Department created the Research, Analysis, and Data (RAD) unit to assist Probation and the CCP with data collection and reporting. The RAD unit provides the following services:

- Vital data and reporting of quarterly financial and dashboard reports to the CCP and Board of Supervisors on Realignment activity in Kern County
- Annual data reports to the Chief Probation Officers Association of California (CPOC) reporting on data elements pertaining to PRCS, Mandatory Supervision, felony probation, and juvenile offenders
- ➤ Prepares, conducts, and administers the Request for Proposals (RFP) and Request for Applications (RFA) competitive grant processes for AB 109 funds distributed through the Community-Based Organizations (CBO) Program
- Conducts program evaluations, such as the DRC evaluation
- Manages large inter-departmental projects, such as the Results First Initiative

The Sheriff's Office is also committed to data collection, research, and analysis of data. The Sheriff's Office has partnered with California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB) to examine the effects of the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program. In 2013, the Department received grant funding from the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) for the RSAT program, an expansion of the Matrix Program. The RSAT program focuses on intensive, outpatient, substance abuse treatment which requires extensive data collection. Through the RSAT program, the Sheriff's Office provides two Office Service Assistants to collect and monitor data elements such as drug tests, class participation, ONA scores, recidivism, and others.

Additionally, the Department staffs two Sheriff Program Technicians (SPT) to collect and monitor data. One SPT is designated to evidence-based programming and works closely with Sheriff Deputies in the Programs Unit to monitor out-of-custody case management, recidivism, and other factors. The second SPT is dedicated to the CBO Program and receives daily census data from CBOs, tracks financial information, enrollment, waitlists, successful completions, failures, and other elements as needed.

In an effort to collect and maintain the most accurate data, KernBHRS has implemented a number of changes. In FY 2014/15, the Substance Use Disorder Division implemented the use of Flow Data to manage the number of program participants. Flow Data is used to capture the most accurate AB 109 participant numbers. The Substance Use Disorder Division uses Flow Data to run reports and to generate conclusions from the inputted data.

Correctional Mental Health uses the Electronic Health Record (EHR) to collect screening data and run reports such as crisis calls and discharge plans. Correctional Mental Health has also created pre and post tests that will collect information for programs such as Thinking for a Change (T4C). The pre and post tests will allow for an in-depth analysis of data to move programs forward and were implemented in FY 2017/18.

Since the implementation of AB 109, the Probation Department, Sheriff's Office, and KernBHRS have started data sharing with greater frequency to effectively serve the population. The three departments collaborate and pool data to report CBO information (financial information, number of participants, services received, etc.) to the CCP, Board of Supervisors, and state agencies on an as-needed basis.

The Sheriff's Office participates in the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) pilot project. The department contributes to the state-wide research project to track and assess the reorganization of California's incarceration systems through data sharing.

Additionally, numerous agencies including the Probation Department, Sheriff's Office, KernBHRS, Employer's Training Resource (ETR), Bakersfield Police Department, County Administrative Office (CAO), Public Defender's Office, and Kern County Superior Court collaborated to participate in the national Results First Initiative. Results First is brought to jurisdictions through a Pew Charitable Trusts and John D. and Catherine T. McArthur Foundation collaborative. Results First is a benefit-cost analysis of the Kern County adult criminal justice system. All agencies involved participated in data sharing and internal research to identify programs offered, marginal operational costs, and a county recidivism rate. The Results First model indicates the projected recidivism reduction produced by programs offered here in Kern County and monetizes these results. This information is then given to departments and policy makers to inform program decisions.

In FY 2019/20, data collection, research, and reporting remain significant as decision making will be based upon data extracted and reported, correlations between variables, and statistical analysis, especially as it relates to future "Growth" funding. Plans include further development of data tracker definitions, working within the development of the new system(s), expanding and/or improving capacity for data collection, measurement and evaluation training, visiting or directly interacting with other counties for networking and ideas, and a marketing/educational program for AB 109 information and awareness.

County staff remain active on the State level to ensure Kern County is receiving all crucial and available resources, accurate and useful information, and being heard as an important and significant Central Valley community. Each year, information will be provided to the CCP and the Board of Supervisors with a more comprehensive assessment of AB 109 implementation and Realignment activities.

### FY 2019/20 Plan

Every year the CCP is tasked with developing a new plan which will address the pressing issues of Realignment in Kern County. The guiding principles remain public safety, reducing recidivism, and data-driven decision making. The FY 2019/20 plan's starting point is a continuation of all existing programs and allocations. Each individual agency's specific plans are explained in the following pages.

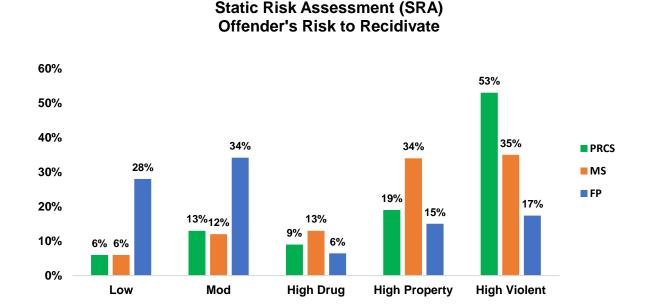
#### **Probation Department**

AB 109 has redefined the California criminal justice system resulting in significant changes to the Adult Divisions of the Probation Department. Since the inception of Realignment, approximately 3,000 additional felony offenders are now under the supervision of the Probation Department. However, there are much more significant changes beyond the sheer numbers. Real philosophical and pragmatic transformations have permeated the way Probation does business. Evidence-based practices and data collection are the cornerstones of our recidivism reducing strategy. Breaking the cycle of re-offending is essential to ensuring long-term safety in our County. The CCP has made a real commitment to this end and the Probation Department is a vital piece in our success. The Probation Department is on the cutting edge in this arena using such tools as evidence-based assessments, individualized case plans, response matrix and criminogenic targeted programming. The benefits of reducing recidivism are evidenced by the reduction in victimizations and significant systematic cost savings. So, the more success our PRCS, Mandatory Supervision and Felony Probation offenders have in community reintegration, the more resources we will secure for Kern County. A detailed explanation of Probation's plan follows below.

#### **Evidence-Based Assessment Tool**

The foundation of the Department's movement toward evidence-based practices is a proven assessment tool. The Static Risk and Needs Assessment (SRNA) can predict with great accuracy the level of an offender's risk to recidivate. This allows targeted supervision for those at higher risk to reoffend, thereby utilizing the Department's resources to greater capacity, efficiency and effectiveness. Every offender under supervision is assessed with an SRA (Static Risk Assessment). This provides needed direction with caseload processing and prioritization. This tool also reveals the fundamental differences between the different supervision statuses (Chart 1).

Chart 1 - Static Risk Assessment (as of March 31, 2019)



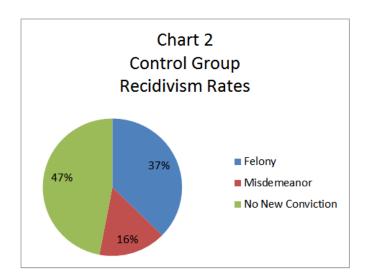
Based on this information it is clear the realigned offenders (i.e. Post Release Community Supervision and Mandatory Supervision) are at a much higher risk to reoffend than the traditional felony Probationers from a ratio standpoint. However, based on the high total of felony Probationers, there is a significant number of high-risk offenders in this population as well.

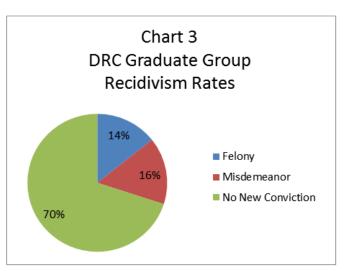
The Probation Department shares our SRA scores with the Sheriff's Office. This information is used as another element in decision making for releases and programming. The increased use of evidence-based tools and inter-department cooperation is a positive by-product of Realignment. The Probation Department is committed to cooperating with all of our criminal justice system partners. We all benefit when we share information and business tools.

In addition to the SRA, the Department has implemented widespread use of the dynamic needs portion of the assessment tool, the Offender Needs Assessment (ONA). The ONA is a critical part of Probation's supervision plan post Realignment. The ONA identifies the offender's criminogenic needs and helps develop an individual case plan to address those needs. The Probation Department utilizes a holistic supervision paradigm. Holding offenders accountable is a priority; however, we must also attempt to place them in the best situation to succeed. This can be accomplished by matching their needs to the appropriate services. The Department is committed to conducting ONAs on all offenders on high risk caseloads.

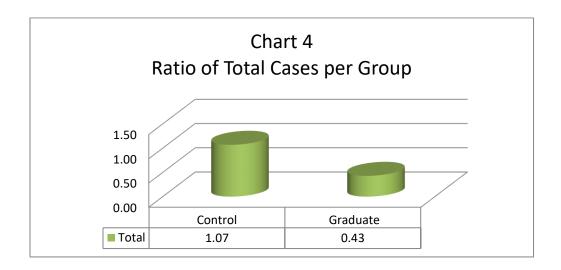
#### **Day Reporting Center**

One of the most innovative programs the Probation Department has as a result of Realignment is the Day Reporting Center (DRC). The DRC has a capacity to serve 200 high risk offenders at a time. A previous internal study of the effectiveness of the DRC showed the positive impact the program has on participants by significantly reducing recidivism. Graduates recidivated only 30% of the time compared to the control group at 53%; felony recidivism was 14% compared to 37% (see Charts 2 and 3).





The impact was even more pronounced when the actual number of criminal cases was examined. The control group produced a ratio of 1.07 criminal cases to offender while the graduates only produced .43 cases to 1 offender (see Chart 4). The full study can be located at <a href="http://www.kernprobation.com/ab109ccp-realignment/plans-and-reports/">http://www.kernprobation.com/ab109ccp-realignment/plans-and-reports/</a>.



In addition to our internal study, there are national studies which reflect the positive benefits of day reporting centers.

The Probation Department reserves participant slots for the Sheriff's Office Virtual Jail program. This allows for offenders still serving their sentence to benefit from the DRC's programming and provides for a better transition to community supervision. This is another illustration of Kern County's commitment to inter-departmental cooperation and teamwork.

The DRC is contracted with GEO Reentry, which operates DRC's throughout the nation. GEO Reentry has a long history of successfully reducing recidivism with their programs. They use the same assessment tool as the Probation Department, formalize specific case plans to address criminogenic needs, and are able to provide a wide variety of evidence-based programs (EBP's) and other services onsite. Criminogenic needs related to employment, education, aggression, parenting, anti-social behavior and substance abuse can all be addressed in one location. Key components of the DRC include Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, job readiness, substance abuse testing, daily reporting, sanctions, rewards and supervision in conjunction with GEO Reentry and the assigned Deputy Probation Officer (DPO). The DRC can change the lives of offenders and break the cycle of criminal behavior which is crucial to decreasing recidivism, reducing crime, ensuring public safety, and limiting societal and monetary costs. The Probation Department has witnessed the incredible and positive transformation of DRC graduates and believes this program is key in reducing recidivism and complying with AB 109 legislative intent.

#### **Adult Programs Center**

The Adult Programs Center (APC) is a newly structured unit within the AB 109 Division. It contains Probation Officers and Probation Program Specialists. These Probation Program Specialists provide validated evidence-based programs to address specific criminogenic needs. The benefits of evidence-based programs are that they significantly reduce recidivism when completed with fidelity. Starting January 2018, APC expanded services to the outlying communities of Delano and Ridgecrest providing EBP to these areas. Examples of EBP include Thinking for a Change (T4C), Aggression Replacement

Training (ART) and Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT). These programs are used in conjunction with the Department's assessment tool, so officers can identify top criminogenic needs and immediately refer offenders to the appropriate services.

The Kern County CCP has developed a true continuum of reentry services. The spectrum of services includes in-custody Sheriff Program Specialist positions, community-based organizations, KernBHRS, Probation Program Specialists and the Day Reporting Center.

#### Supervision

As a result of Realignment, the Probation Department's supervision responsibilities now include PRCS, Mandatory Supervision offenders and an increased number of felony probationers. Regardless of the supervision status, certain supervision principles are universal. This includes manageable caseload sizes with the goal of continuing to improve the officer to offender ratio. The smaller this ratio, the more able officers can be in maximizing the effectiveness of evidence-based practices.

A Response Matrix including redirection, additional terms and conditions, treatment, electronic monitoring, flash incarceration, the DRC and APC, community-based organizations, and formal violations resulting in custody time is being used to address violations of terms. A response commensurate with the nature of the violation, the number of prior violations and the defendant's risk level will be imposed. Responses will be swift, certain, specific, and graduated. As part of the Response Matrix, appropriate incentives will be utilized to facilitate and reinforce positive behavior change in offenders. Research shows that the incentives to sanctions ratio should be 4:1 to be effective. The Response Matrix was designed to be clear and easy to follow which fosters consistency in officers' responses to offender behaviors. DPO's also utilize Motivational Interviewing, a technique which has been shown to lead offenders to be more apt to initiate a change in their behavior.

#### **Investigations**

Investigations staff have responded to the need for additional assessments, increased court reports and other needed services. These staff help ensure the Court continues to receive pre-sentence investigation reports in a timely manner and that current courtroom coverage can be maintained. They also create an SRA for every felony and Mandatory Supervision offender who is sentenced locally. Investigations staff play an integral part in the criminal justice system. Several AB 109 positions have been added to these units to help compensate for the increased demand for work as a result of Realignment.

#### Research, Analysis, and Data Unit

The Research, Analysis, and Data (RAD) unit is responsible for data collection, state and local reporting, and program evaluations. The unit has also been involved in several large projects, including the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative, the data collection effort lead by the Public Policy Institute of California, and several Request for Proposals/Applications. The RAD unit consists of five (5) staff, a Supervising Departmental Analyst, three (3) Departmental Analysts, and an Office Services Specialist. The Probation Department understands the importance of, and has committed to, research and data.

#### Information Technology

AB 109 has created numerous IT challenges for the Probation Department. The Department is the hub of Realignment data collection for the CCP and the County. Integration of information, data reports and complex recidivism formulas are all necessary and important components of the overall success of Realignment. Furthermore, the changes in the law have created the need for additional reports and case management system (CMS) capacities. There has also been an increased request for information from State agencies and organizations for numerous studies. The Probation Department must maintain a sufficient level of IT services to meet these challenges.

#### **Support Staff**

A total of five (5) Office Service Technicians (OST's) and one (1) Office Service Specialist (OSS) have been added, specifically assigned to the Adult and AB 109 Divisions. These positions are needed to support the increased work associated with reception areas, reports, filing and miscellaneous paperwork. Support staff play a vital role in the Department's success in meeting mission critical goals and in the implementation of programs.

#### Collaboratives

The Probation Department has maintained and grown numerous collaboratives since the beginning of Realignment. It is clear that in order to accomplish the Department's goals of public safety and reducing recidivism, a county-wide team approach is needed. Some of these collaboratives include ETR, KernBHRS, CBOs, and other law enforcement agencies. ETR receives referrals from DPOs for AB 109 employment and work experience programs. These programs offer offenders a way to improve skills and potentially gain employment. Officers work closely with both mental health professionals and substance abuse specialists from KernBHRS. Certain offenders must have these issues addressed before they can move forward with their overall rehabilitation. With the AB 109 CBO Program, the Probation Department can directly refer offenders into a number of programs that address many different issues. These additional services increase the likelihood of successful completion from supervision and are a welcome and needed resource for officers. Probation staff also continued their collaborations with other law enforcement agencies. Probation is very active in Street Interdiction Team (SIT) operations throughout the County and assists other law enforcement agencies when requested.

#### **Operating Costs**

In order to achieve the stated goals and objectives as listed in this section, there are numerous associated operating costs. These costs include office and field equipment, licensing rights, vehicle maintenance and fuel, training, overtime, and more. The largest expenses are building leasing costs for our AB 109 division.

Given the increase of the base allocation another Deputy Probation Officer position has been added. Pension costs for safety employees increased with no pension relief or mitigation funding to offset the increase as AB 109 is considered a grant for revenue purposes. In addition, Step and MOU certificate pay increases added to this expense category along with the cost increase for technology expenses, vehicle expenses such as fuel, training, and general operating expenses.

#### Probation Department's FY 2019/20 AB 109 Allocation:

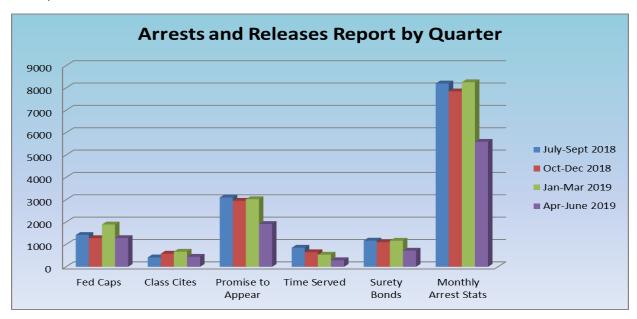
Position/Item		Cost per Unit	Cost for 1 Year	
Probation Division Director	1	\$234,987	\$234,987	
Probation Supervisor	5	\$188,126	\$940,630	
Deputy Probation Officer III	14	\$170,018	\$2,380,252	
Deputy Probation Officer	59	\$141,087	\$8,324,133	
Probation Program Specialist	10	\$101,869	\$1,018,690	
Office Services Specialist	2	\$86,314	\$172,628	
Office Services Technician	5	\$75,458	\$377,290	
Departmental Analyst	3	\$103,021	\$309,063	
Database Analyst	1	\$144,707	\$144,707	
Programmer	1	\$130,096	\$130,096	
Senior Information Systems Specialist	1	\$127,764	\$127,764	
Day Reporting Center		\$920,000	\$920,000	
Operating Expenses		\$892,612	\$892,612	
Total	102		\$15,972,852	

#### **Sheriff's Office**

Fiscal Year 2018/2019 was the first full year with the new Kern Justice Facility fully operational. With its rated capacity of 797 medium- and maximum-security beds, the facility provides appropriate housing for the higher-level inmates that have comprised an increasing portion of the inmate population since AB 109 went into effect in 2011. The new facility has also replaced the Minimum Facility as the hub of in-custody inmate programs. Its nine programing areas have allowed a larger portion of the inmate population to access educational, vocational, and rehabilitative programing. Therefore, the Sheriff's Office enters the next fiscal year in a good position to sustain its AB 109 related efforts.

AB 109 diverted many offenders who would previously have been sentenced to state prisons and sentenced them instead to the county jail. This shift increased the jail population during the first three years of Realignment, forcing the Sheriff's Office to release as many as 9,500 inmates early per year to keep the population under federally stipulated limits. In the wake of Proposition 47, which took effect in 2014 and converted many felony crimes into misdemeanors, the number of arrests and the need for early releases declined significantly. Early releases have again increased in recent years as portions of the Sheriff's Office jail capacity were closed due to staffing challenges. As of June 1, 2019, there were 6,258 early releases (generally called "Fed Caps" and "Class Cites") in Fiscal Year 2018/19.

The chart below illustrates the number of arrests made each quarter of Fiscal Year 2018/19, along with the types of releases during the same time periods. Most of the statistics shown below were comparable to the data from the previous fiscal year, although the number of fed caps increased and the number of time-served releases decreased. Please note, the fourth quarter data for each category, represented by the purple bars, indicate lower numbers because data for June of 2019 was not available at the time of this report.



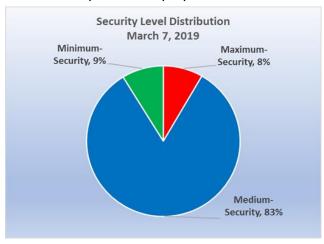
Realignment also sentenced inmates to county jail for terms similar in length to what they would have served in state prison. Whereas the maximum pre-Realignment jail sentence was generally one year, post-Realignment inmates are often sentenced to two years or longer. The longest sentence currently being served in the Sheriff's jail is seven years.

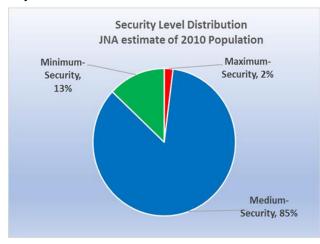
#### The Challenges of the Post-AB 109 Inmate Population

Apart from the number of inmates and length of their sentences, the current inmate population is qualitatively different than that of the pre-Realignment era. The more challenging nature of the post-Realignment inmate population can be illustrated by comparing a snapshot of the current inmate population with statistics presented in the *2011 Jail Needs Assessment*. Of the 1,927 inmates in custody in March of 2019:

- 2.8% were classified as high-risk/staff assaultive, as opposed to 0.5% in 2010;
- Approximately 11.5% were in custody for murder or attempted murder;
- 17% were administratively segregated (housed by themselves), as compared to approximately 3% to 5% of inmates in 2010;
- 62% were gang affiliated, as opposed to 33% in 2010. Of the gang-affiliated inmates currently in custody, 31% were charged with violent crimes;
- 89% were felons, compared to 84% in 2010;
- 70% were receiving mental health services, as compared to the 2010 estimate of 15%.

The charts below illustrate the shift in inmate security levels between 2010 and 2018. Maximum-security inmates comprise approximately 8% of the inmate population, as opposed to only 2% in 2010. In the same period, the proportion of minimum-security inmates fell from 13% to 9%.





AB 109 created a core of inmates serving longer sentences in the jails. Long-term inmates tend to present more challenging inmate management issues, as they tend to require more services, including medical and mental health care. Additionally, they become familiar and comfortable in their surroundings, learning to manipulate procedures and circumvent security. As they become more skilled, they influence shorter term inmates to act in a similar fashion.

The above-mentioned increase in gang activity among inmates poses considerable security challenges. Serious gang rivalries and gang-politics are key drivers of violence among inmates, which has increased markedly in the wake of Realignment. Coordinated criminal gang activities, such as the smuggling of narcotics, cell phones, and other contraband have also increased.

The increase in inmates needing special housing, such as administrative segregation, has also taken its toll on jail operations. Inmates who require special housing create a significant draw on jail resources in terms of available beds, the capacity of holding cells, and the staff time needed to manage and supervise these inmates.

These changes in the inmate population have posed significant security and operational challenges in the Sheriff's jails. AB 109 funding continues to play an important role in helping the Sheriff's Office meet these challenges.

#### **Meeting the Challenge**

The Kern Justice Facility has helped to mitigate some of the above-mentioned problems by providing more flexible housing better suited to the post-Realignment inmate population. That said, the Sheriff's Office has continued to improve safety and security in its older jail facilities. AB 109 funding has supported these efforts, funding improvements such as upgrades of security electronics in the Pre-Trial Facility's master control station, installation of security doors at the Central Receiving Facility, security systems for the Virtual Jail lobby, and improvements to camera systems at the Pre-Trial, Ridgecrest, and Central Receiving Facilities. Continued investment in camera systems is of particular value, as cameras that record inmate activity play an increasingly vital role in holding inmates accountable for their actions and assisting in prosecution of crimes committed within the jail.

While cameras and other technologies help monitor inmates, there is no substitute for dedicated and well-trained staff. Staffing continues to be a struggle for the Sheriff's Office. While academies and other hiring efforts work to mitigate this issue, keeping up with the rate of attrition continues to be a challenge. As of early June, there were 76 deputy sheriff and 73 detentions deputy positions (of all ranks) vacant. AB 109 funding continues to play an important role in staffing the jails and operating various programs related to Realignment.

#### **Programs and Services**

The Sheriff's Office continues to provide quality inmate programs grounded in evidence-based practices. Program staff facilitate empirically proven curriculum to inmates that focuses on cognitive behavioral therapy. Evidence-based practices strive to meet the specific needs of inmates by integrating clinical expertise, external scientific evidence, and client perspectives. The reduction of recidivism remains the core mission of program delivery.

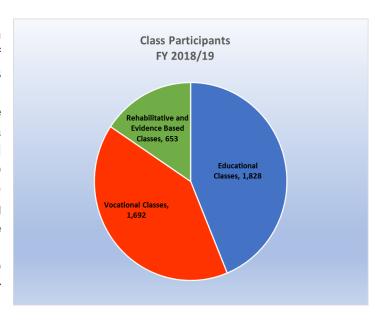
Proper assessment is the key to ensuring inmates are provided the treatment, services, and level of supervision appropriate to their needs and risk of recidivating. Sheriff's program staff is trained in evidence-based assessment techniques, which improve the selection of programs and services specific to an individual participant's criminogenic needs. These techniques also help to create a re-entry case plan and link inmates to available resources upon release.

In Fiscal Year 2018/19, 653 inmates attended evidence-based and rehabilitative classes. Some of the evidence-based classes being offered within the jail facilities include the following:

- <u>The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program</u> is a program in which participants are housed separately from the general population. The treatment program includes a 100 day incustody component followed by a four-to six-month-long aftercare (out-of-custody) component.
- <u>The Matrix Model</u> is an intensive drug treatment program that teaches inmates about their addictions and helps them identify and examine ways to cope with high-risk situations that lead to relapse.
- <u>Seeking Safety</u> is a cognitive-behavioral therapy course that addresses trauma and substance
  use through coping skills, assists in formulating discharge plans, and helps with barrier
  recognition.
- <u>Aggression Replacement Training (ART)</u> utilizes multi-component, cognitive-behavioral treatment to promote pro-social behavior by addressing factors that contribute to aggression.
- Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) is a cognitive-behavioral treatment strategy designed specifically for offender populations. The purpose of MRT is to instill and develop higher levels of moral reasoning in inmates, which leads to moral thinking and behavior. It also helps inmates acknowledge how their behaviors affect others and helps them learn to change their behaviors to more positive social behaviors and beliefs.

<u>Educational and Vocational Services:</u> The Bakersfield Adult School (BAS), a part of the Kern High School District, has worked in partnership with the Kern County Sheriff's Office for over three decades. It is one of the largest partner agencies currently working with the Sheriff's Office. Nearly 30 teachers instruct upwards of 100 educational/vocational classes per week in a variety of subjects. Approximately 1,692 inmates attended vocational courses during their incarceration in FY 2018/19.

There is a strong relationship between educational programs and the reduction of recidivism. In FY 2018/19, 1,828 inmates attended one or more educational classes. Additionally, the educational program at the Lerdo Facilities maintains its status as a certified GED testing site. In FY 2018/19, all of the inmates who tested for their GED achieved a passing score. Acquiring a GED is often the first step on the road to removing barriers to a successful re-entry into the community and employment opportunities. Those who are not able to complete the GED program in custody are able to continue their work with BAS after release.



Additional courses offered by BAS include Substance Abuse Prevention, Anger Management, Parenting, and Batterer Intervention. Many of the classes offered are approved by the courts, as well as the Department of Human Services, Child Protective Services, Probation, and State Parole. New computer classes have been created in the Justice Facility and will soon start in the Pre-Trial Facility.

The Lerdo staff dining facility is operated by female inmates who are taught basic food service skills and industry standard equipment training. Participants of this program can earn a ServSafe certificate, which improves their employment marketability when applying for jobs after release. A similar program is run for male inmate in the Lerdo Main Kitchen.

As part of its overall educational program, the Sheriff's Office has continued to partner with California State University, Bakersfield as part of the university's Project Rebound. This program provides outreach services to the inmate population and seeks to recruit eligible inmates to attend the university upon release. This program is similar to a long-standing partnership between the Sheriff's Office and Bakersfield College, in which inmates take a computerized assessment test while in-custody for possible enrollment in the college upon release.

#### **Partner Services**

The Sheriff's Office collaborates with numerous governmental agencies and community-based organizations to improve the provision of services that help remove barriers to successful community re-entry for the inmate population. For example, the Sheriff's Office continues its established partnership with the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) to assist inmates in resolving child support issues. In FY 2018/19, over 192 inmates utilized this service. The Sheriff's Office also maintains a strong working relationship with America's Job Center (AJC). AJC staff located at the Lerdo Facilities provides employment services to in-custody participants with additional referrals to AJC services after release.

#### **Pretrial Release Program**

The Sheriff's Office continues to release low-risk inmates into the community prior to their arraignment via the Pretrial Release Program. The Kern County Superior Court has given the Sheriff's Office authority to release inmates deemed eligible by the Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument (VPRAI). The VPRAI is an evidence-based tool that assesses an inmate's risk of failing to appear in court and their risk to community safety.



In FY 2018/19, forty-six inmates were released on the

Pretrial Release Program and 85% successfully completed the program. This program has played an important role in helping the Sheriff's Office manage its jail bed space while maintaining public safety and combating recidivism.

#### **Sheriff's Virtual Jail**

The Virtual Jail program allows the Sheriff's Office to maintain varying degrees of oversight and compliance monitoring for released participants. Many Virtual Jail inmates participate in mental health services and substance abuse treatment programs. Some continue to attend educational or vocational programs. There are three Virtual Jail programs: Sheriff's Parole (SP), the Work Release Program, and the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP). The overall goal of the Virtual Jail is to reduce recidivism and to help participants reconnect with their families and become gainfully employed, law-abiding citizens.

In FY 2018/19, EMP and Sheriff's Parole combined had 641 total participants. As of late May, 358 participants had successfully completed the EMP and Sheriff's Parole program. However, 227 participants violated the terms of the program and were subsequently returned to custody. Most of the participants who violate are re-released back into virtual custody after a case review and go on to successfully complete the program.

The Virtual Jail staff has continued its emphasis on drug testing to ensure compliance among program participants. EMP and Sheriff's Parole have conducted 678 drug tests with a 79% negative test rate. Participants who tested positive were referred to the Probation Department's Day Reporting Center (DRC), the BHRS Gateway Team, and to NA/AA meetings to help in rehabilitation.

More than 81 remote alcohol detection devices have been deployed among released inmates who had convictions for driving under the influence. The remote alcohol detection devices require participants to test randomly every three hours and use facial recognition software to confirm the identity of the users. In FY 2018/19, these devices conducted a total of 31,540 breath tests on participants with the following results: 29,595 passed tests, 27 failed tests, and 1,892 missed tests. This amounts to an overall compliance rate of 94 percent. Participants who missed a scheduled test were contacted and

required to test immediately. Those who tested positive were arrested for a violation of their terms of supervision.

The Sheriff's Office continues to use ankle monitors for inmates requiring prolonged admittance at Kern Medical. In the past year, the Sheriff's Office used monitors on 11 inmates for over 1,477 hours in the hospital. This equates to 185 eight-hour shifts that would otherwise have been filled by a deputy to guard the inmates, resulting in approximately \$57,957 in staff cost savings.

#### **Moving Forward**

The Sheriff's Office has proposed allocation of its Fiscal Year 2019/20 base funding in the amount of \$17,639,311 in accordance with the established 39.27% of the overall base allocation. This total represents an increase of \$811,061 over the Sheriff's Office FY 2018/19 base allocation. The increase will be allocated to fund the following:

- The installation of a security gate to control the entrance to the Central Receiving Facility garage, at a cost of \$250,000;
- The reconfiguration of the cages in two buses to accommodate more administratively segregated inmates, at a cost of \$86,145;
- Increased Salary and Benefits Costs The remaining \$474,916 will be allocated to cover increased personnel costs. These costs include recent salary increases, overtime, and escalating benefits costs (e.g., health care, retirement).

The chart below shows the recommended Sheriff's Office AB 109 Budget for FY 2019/20, including updated staffing costs.

#### Sheriff's Office Proposed FY 2019/20 AB 109 Allocation

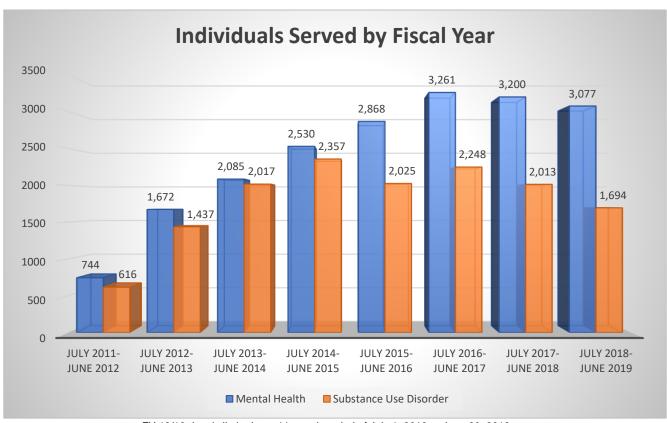
POSITION / ITEM	QTY	COST PER UNIT	ANNUAL COST
Detentions Deputy	43	\$133,684	\$5,748,412
Deputy Sheriff II CA	16	\$171,051	\$2,736,816
Sheriff's Program Specialist	8	\$112,740	\$901,920
Deputy Sheriff II C	5	\$161,019	\$805,095
Detentions Senior Deputy	4	\$147,849	\$591,396
Sheriff's Support Technician	7	\$80,292	\$562,044
Deputy Sheriff II C	3	\$161,019	\$483,057
Senior Deputy Sheriff	2	\$185,837	\$371,674
Sheriff's Aide	4	\$88,564	\$354,256
Sheriff's Program Technician	3	\$94,017	\$282,051
Sheriff's Lieutenant	1	\$245,037	\$245,037
Administrative Coordinator	2	\$118,379	\$236,758
Detentions Lieutenant	1	\$210,293	\$210,293
Sheriff's Sergeant	1	\$209,413	\$209,413
Detentions Sergeant	1	\$162,409	\$162,409
Light Vehicle Driver	2	\$75,775	\$151,550
Programmer II	1	\$131,807	\$131,807
Information Systems Specialist II	1	\$124,875	\$124,875
Maintenance Worker IV	1	\$97,351	\$97,351
Sheriff's Support Specialist	1	\$88,114	\$88,114
Total Salaries & Benefits	107		\$14,494,328
Overtime			\$686,282
Total Personnel Costs			\$15,180,610
Total Services and Supplies			\$2,458,701
Total Proposed FY 19/20 AB109 Allocation			\$17,639,311



The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to work in partnership with our community to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kern County through professional public safety services.

#### Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Department

Since the implementation of AB109 in October 2011, KernBHRS has continued to experience an increase in the service needs for individuals with criminal justice involvement. The impact has been noted across the continuum of care; including within the substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health (MH) in-custody, outpatient, crisis, and inpatient settings. Through AB109 Public Safety Realignment funding, the goal of KernBHRS is to address mental health and substance use disorders of AB109 designated individuals. Making treatment in these two areas a priority will aid in reducing recidivism in hospitalization, incarceration and days of homelessness for the population served. Treatment strategies target life skills development, anger management, psychological trauma, and errors in reasoning or criminal thinking. Services utilize evidence-based and/or best practice strategies which focus on mental illness and substance use. From July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 KernBHRS served a total of 3,077 individuals with an AB109 category assignment. Of those, 1,687 individuals were treated in both MH and SUD service systems. Data available for this report covers eleven months of FY 18/19. The department anticipates and is on track to serve a higher number of individuals this fiscal year than in previous year. The table below reflects the number of AB109 assigned individuals who were provided mental health and/or substance use disorder services by the department since 2011.



FY 18/19 data is limited to a 11-month period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

#### **Programs and Services**

#### **Behavioral Health In-Custody Services:**

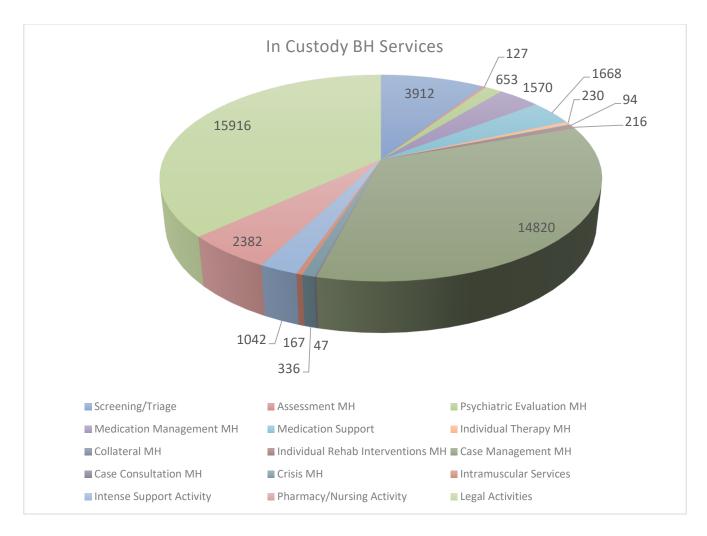
Within the Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) Detention Facilities, the KernBHRS Correctional Behavioral Health Team (CBH) provides onsite behavioral health services to the incarcerated population and links these individuals to KernBHRS outpatient teams, contract providers, outside agencies (Probation and Parole) and Community-Based Organizations to provide continuity of care upon release to the community. CBH is an access point within the KernBHRS System of Care. Prior to release from custody, discharge plans for continued treatment, such as immediate service appointments and bridge medications are set up for post release. The CBH Team collaborates with the Adult Transition Team (ATT) for linkage to community-based specialty mental health treatment for severe and persistent mental illness and services focusing on the reduction and elimination of re-entry into jail/prison. The CBH Team has established a strong relationship with KCSO and the Kern Hospital Authority, Kern Medical (KM), which also allows for the holistic treatment of the incarcerated population by addressing mental health, substance use and physical care needs while incarcerated and continuing upon release into the community.

Over the past fiscal year, CBH has facilitated bridge medications for individuals discharging from all four facilities (CRF, Justice, Pre-Trial and Max-Med), when transitioning to resources, such as:, Access and Assessment Team, Co-Response Team, and outpatient providers within the System of Care, and/or a support person. Discharges to Psychiatric Evaluation Center (PEC) and or the Crisis Walk-In Clinic (CWIC) are now being facilitated for individuals who have been ordered released from custody but are not yet stable and require additional support upon their release. The goal is to provide continuity of care and a "warm" handoff to easily access behavioral health services without a lapse between release and outpatient services.

In January of 2019, CBH with collaborating partners began conducting Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Conservatorship Evaluations at the Lerdo Justice Facility. This allows for the clients to be provided services and observation to assist in deciding Conservatorship eligibility while remaining in custody rather than being transported to an inpatient hospital. CBH has processed seven court referrals for Conservatorship Evaluations. Six referrals did not meet the criteria for LPS Conservatorship; however, one met criteria and was referred to Kern Medical IPU for treatment. Conducting these evaluations at the Sheriff's Justice Facility significantly expedites the process, reduces the need for guard coverage provided by KCSO, and frees up inpatient beds at Kern Medical for individuals who require more intensive inpatient treatment.

CBH facilitates Court-ordered medication evaluations ordered by the Kern County Courts. These evaluations determine an individual's need for court mandated involuntary medication and allows for the administration of involuntary medications to individuals who are severely decompensating, or at risk to themselves or others. Medication orders are tracked daily to check for adherence, and CBH staff take care to utilize all possible means to encourage compliance prior to enforcing the court order. This fiscal year, 207 medication evaluations were completed and submitted to the courts; 172 evaluations resulted in court-ordered involuntary medication treatment.

During fiscal year 2018-2019, KernBHRS staffing increases allowed for additional mental health services to be provided in correctional settings. The CBH team has seen a 7.4% net increase of services provided this fiscal year within all Sheriff Facilities. These services include, but are not limited to, crisis services, individual and group therapy, medication management, and case management. The graph below identifies the number of services provided by CBH.



#### **Substance Use Disorder In-Custody Services:**

In October of 2018, the KernBHRS in-custody substance use program became integrated within the CBH Team. This move allowed for more direct on-site supervision of staff and allowed for further integration of the delivery of both mental health and SUD services. Staff providing substance use disorder services are certified drug and alcohol counselors. The program utilizes evidenced-based treatment modalities such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART), The Matrix Model, Seeking Safety, and Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT). These services benefit the protective custody and administrative segregation population; these individuals are separated in specialty housing due to severity of symptoms, charges, and behaviors. Since the transition, individual substance abuse counseling is now provided by trained substance abuse staff in addition to group services.

#### **Adult Transition Team:**

The Adult Transition Team (ATT) serves individuals with serious and persistent mental illnesses who also have a lengthy legal history which may include multiple incarcerations and services for those returning from State Hospitals who have received competency restoration services. ATT staff include Recovery Specialists, Therapists, Substance Use Disorder Specialists, and Clinical Psychologists that utilize evidence-based treatment approaches. This team works closely with the KernBHRS CBH team, and the primary point of entry is facilitated by an ATT liaison stationed within the Sheriff's Detention

Facilities. This staff conducts screenings while individuals are incarcerated to assist in linkage to outpatient services. Individuals who meet the criteria for services with ATT are assessed and linked with a Recovery Specialist to establish rapport and assist the individual in their transition from jail to the community prior to release. Referral sources include self, detention staff, family members, CBH, family advocate, probation officers, the Public Defender and District Attorney's Office. ATT service goals are to improve the mental health and substance use status of individuals served and reduce recidivism days of hospitalization, incarceration, and homelessness.

When treating clients, ATT staff utilize the following Evidence-based programs and modalities: CBT and Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT). Seeking Safety and Matrix groups are utilized for individuals requiring treatment for co-occurring disorders. This fiscal year the use of a therapy dog during Seeking Safety groups was introduced to provide an alternative method to ease trauma. Positive feedback has been received from clients regarding this new therapy aid.

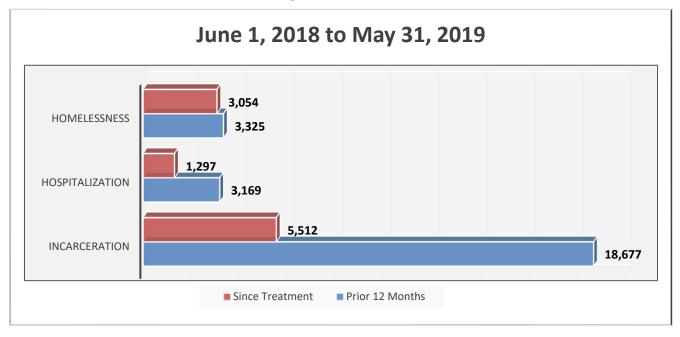
Staff engage clients by providing case management and skill building interventions in the field to foster relationships and encourage continued treatment. Individual therapy and group sessions are provided on-site and off-site locations. The groups are designed to educate, build social skills, raise awareness, promote independence and good self-care. ATT staff strive to improve critical thinking to endorse recovery and stability. After-hour services are supported by on-call staff, one English-speaking and one Spanish-speaking to ensure clients' needs are met beyond regular office hours.

To address physical health care needs, ATT staff have partnered with Kern Medical's Whole Person Care. The Whole Person Care program is an existing local collaborative program that addresses physical care and supportive services for individuals leaving the in-custody setting. Individuals with acute substance use disorder needs beyond the treatment provided onsite by Whole Person Care staff will be served by KernBHRS System of Care.

The Adult Transition Team has also been serving individuals in the Sustained Treatment and Recovery (STAR) Court since it began in 2015. Star Court, a multi-agency collaboration with County agencies including Probation, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender and the Superior Court is a program available to the AB109 population. The STAR Court Program is a non-traditional diversion program which links individuals charged with felonies to mental health and substance use treatment services within the community. The program serves clients with severe mental illness who are referred by the Court after one or multiple serious crimes have been committed. The program also ensures proper linkage to resources including housing, transportation and benefits. The 18-to-36-month program is designed to reduce recidivism of individuals who suffer from serious mental illness and/or substance use and are involved in the criminal justice system, reduce incarceration due to program failures, and enhance public safety by providing necessary mental health care and is closely monitored by mental health Recovery Specialists and the client's Probation Officer. STAR Court status hearings are held weekly, and should clients fail to appear or continue fidelity to treatment plans, their eligibility in STAR Court may be suspended or revoked.

ATT measures its AB109 recidivism outcomes by comparing the number of days clients spend in custody, in an inpatient psychiatric setting, or are homeless for the 12 months prior to service initiation with the number of days in these categories while in treatment following release. The target goal is to reduce the number of days in these categories by 30%. From July 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019, ATT served 132 unduplicated clients with severe mental illness, many of whom had a secondary diagnosis of a substance use disorder and were homeless. In aggregate, the number of days incarcerated decreased by 70%, and the number of days in a psychiatric inpatient setting were reduced by 59%. The number of homeless days decreased by 8%. KernBHRS Housing Services Team is working in concert with the Homeless Collaborative to coordinate all its housing efforts to address these needs.

## Adult Transition Team Incarceration, Hospitalization and Homelessness



#### **Mental Health Systems:**

Mental Health Systems ACTion (MHS ACTion) is contracted with KernBHRS to provide intensive outpatient services to AB109 clients. The model of service provided is an evidenced-based practice service delivery model proven to assist individuals with serious and persistent mental illness, severe functional impairments and who have a history of involvement with the Criminal Justice System. These clients also have a history of avoiding or not responding to traditional mental health outpatient treatment. The goal is to reduce frequent hospitalizations, homelessness, reoccurring incarceration and to increase the likelihood of becoming productive members of society.

The MHS ACTion program staff assist clients in developing personal goals and meeting those needs by self-empowerment, skill building, staff role modeling, and side by side support. Services are provided in locations that meet the needs of the individual served, in addition to services provided at the treatment team facility. This Intensive Outpatient Team works closely together to combine their knowledge and skills to provide the client with the services they need for as long as they need them, 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-per-year and on an on-call basis.

Between July 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019, the MHS ACTion program served 83 AB109 assigned individuals, with a total of 5,364 service contacts. In line with other KernBHRS outpatient programs, the MHS ACTion program aims to reduce incarceration, homelessness and hospitalizations. During this reporting period, both homelessness and incarcerations were reduced while inpatient admissions remained static. During this fiscal year, MHS ACTion provided 375 medication management visits with a psychiatrist, 539 individual therapy sessions, and hundreds of individual sessions with recovery specialists to provide various case management and individual rehabilitation services. MHS ACTion provided more than 320 group contacts which represents an increase in services from the previous year. Over the next year, the program aims to expand coordination of care with the Correctional

Behavioral Health (CBH) Team to strengthen continuity of behavioral health services upon release from custody.



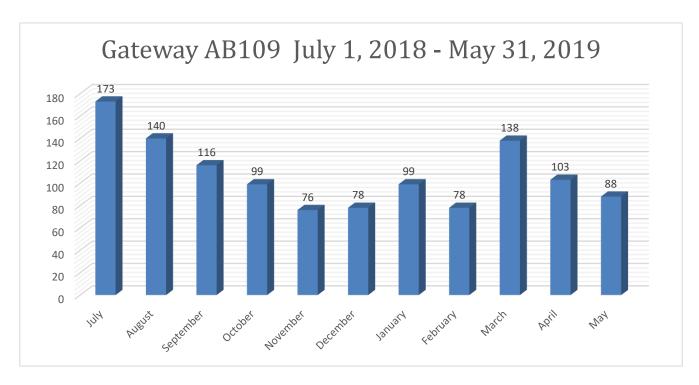


#### **Substance Use Disorder Outpatient Services:**

#### Gateway:

Substance use disorder outpatient services for AB109 assigned individuals are primarily provided through KernBHRS contracted service providers. Individuals are linked to service providers through the Gateway Team. The Gateway Team is the central screening and referral service for SUD treatment for both metropolitan Bakersfield and outlying areas of Kern County. Gateway offers screening and referral services 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week through the SUD Access Line. The SUD Access Line allows individuals to complete their screening and obtain a referral for treatment services over the telephone. In addition to the SUD Access Line, Gateway has several locations where individuals may be screened in person throughout the community. Screenings are also conducted in the in-custody, the psychiatric inpatient setting, and at local hospitals. There was a total of 1,188 criminal justice involved individuals referred to outpatient SUD services through the Gateway Team between July 2018 and May 2019. In addition to screening and referral services, Gateway provides case management to inmates participating in the in-custody treatment program. Case management services are utilized to assist inmates in re-integration into the community. Gateway case managers provide re-entry kits to case management clients and assist in identifying the need for additional services and linkage to community resources.

With the introduction of a new Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Waiver, substance use disorder treatment availability expanded in FY 2018/19. This included additional residential treatment options, case management, and recovery services for individuals with a primary substance use diagnosis. After the launch of the DMC-ODS waiver, the average number of clients in treatment increased 13.3% from July 2018 (2,338) to March 2019 (2,650). There was a 3% jump from February (2,557) to March (2,650). KernBHRS has launched two case management teams the Recovery, Inspire, Support, Empower (RISE) Team and the Substance Abuse Resource Team (SART) to provide additional case management and recovery services for individuals with a primary substance use diagnosis. As part of the continued efforts taken to expand treatment availability in FY 2019/20, KernBHRS is working on adding additional residential treatment options including a Clinically Managed High Intensity Residential level of care for those with high co-occurring mental health and SUD concerns. It is the intention of the Department to maintain parity of services for clients through Drug Medi-Cal and other funding streams, including AB109 funding. For this reason, it is anticipated services for AB109 clientele will be expanded to include additional treatment options and supportive services.

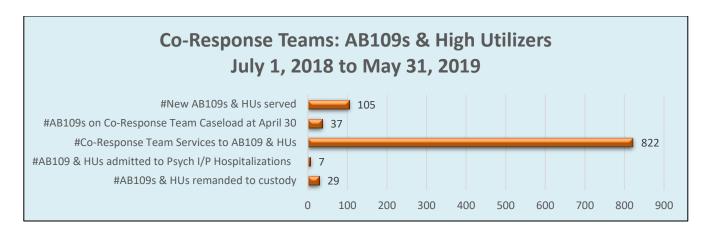


#### **Crisis Intervention Services:**

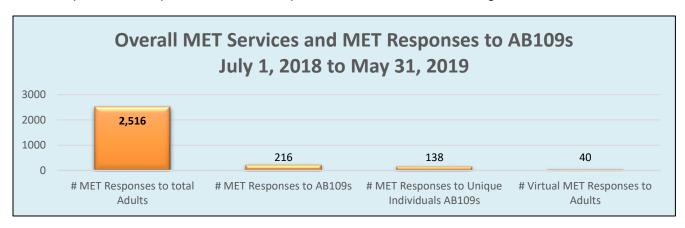
#### **Mobile Evaluation Services:**

The KernBHRS Mobile Evaluation Team (MET) has historically acted as an adjunct to law enforcement with community response, and it has been standard for MET to be dispatched through law enforcement. Since the launch of the AB109 Co-Response Team in June 2015, MET, in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office and the Bakersfield Police Department (BPD), has taken on a more proactive role in reducing crises and recidivism. There are now two Co-Response Teams in place: one for the Sheriff's Office and one for BPD. Each Co-Response Team consists of a law enforcement officer and a staff member of MET. The MET staff of the Co-Response Teams are funded though AB109 Realignment and are senior-level, experienced members of the team. Individuals served are High Utilizers (HU) of law enforcement 911 services who, without early intervention, may become hospitalized or incarcerated. This joint response approach places the law enforcement officer and MET staff in the same vehicle, increasing the level of collaborative crisis care services.

The Co-Response Teams provided initial contact to 105 new AB109 and HU individuals during the period of July 2018 to May 31, 2019. Overall, the Co-Response Teams provided 822 services to all AB109 and HU individuals. 29 AB109 and HU individuals were remanded to custody during this period; and 7, all identified as High Utilizers were admitted to inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations. The caseload of the Co-Response Teams as of May 31, 2019 included 33 AB109 and 4 HU individuals.



In addition to Co-Response Team services, traditional MET services continue to be provided throughout Kern County. At the request of law enforcement, MET provides community-based crisis intervention services including evaluation and transportation for involuntary psychiatric care. Between July 2018 and May 31, 2019 MET and/or Virtual MET responded to 2,516 adults with local law enforcement; 216 of these responses were provided to 138 unique individuals known and assigned as AB109.



#### The Crisis Intervention Team:

The Crisis Intervention Team's (CIT) overarching goals are to improve officer and individual safety when the scene is a mental health crisis; redirect individuals with mental illness from the Judicial System to the Behavioral Health System. The CIT 40-hour class, CIT Advance Officer 8-hour class, CIT Steering Committee, CIT Electronic Monitoring Program Subcommittee, and CIT High Utilizer Subcommittee specifically focus on closing the gaps between law enforcement agencies and behavioral health agencies who often encounter the same individuals in the community that need behavioral health services. As a result of the CIT program goal, it encompasses the AB109 population.

The CIT 40-hour class and CIT Advance Officer 8-hour class provides training to law enforcement that includes information on how to identify possible behavioral health behaviors to assist officers in linking individuals, including AB109s, to behavioral health and substance use disorder services. The class provides resources that could reduce recidivism by having the individuals address their behavioral health needs. During the period of July 2018 to May 31, 2019, four (4) CIT classes were completed.

The CIT Electronic Monitoring Program Subcommittee is collaboration between Kern County Sheriff's Office, Bakersfield Police Department and Kern BHRS to assist Co-Response Teams find solutions for participants who have behavioral health difficulties within the EMP program. The Co-response team's

goal is to prevent the prioritized list of AB109 participants who have substance use and behavioral health disorders from recidivism. The CIT EMP Subcommittee met monthly during the period of July 2018 to May 31, 2019.

The CIT High Utilizer Subcommittee is a multi-agency meeting between the city Co-Response team, Bakersfield Police Department, Kern BHRS and Mental Health Systems Action to develop solutions on how to effectively empower individuals identified as High Utilizers to use behavioral health resources instead of 911 services. The CIT High Utilizer Subcommittee aims to avert the identified High Utilizers from possible hospitalizations and/or incarceration, consequently reducing recidivism.

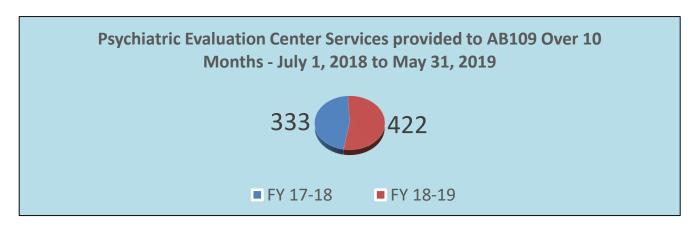
#### **Access and Assessment Center:**

The Access and Assessment Center serves as the centralized access system for adults entering mental health treatment outside of the criminal justice setting. As of May 31, 2019, the center served 208 AB109 assigned individuals. For these 208 individuals, the Access and Assessment Center provided 154 mental health screenings and 138 mental health assessments. 23 individuals did not show for their scheduled assessment appointments. Of those individuals who received mental health assessments, 111 were linked to services within the KernBHRS System of Care, including contracted rural providers.

#### **Psychiatric Evaluation Center and Crisis Stabilization Unit:**

The Bakersfield Psychiatric Evaluation Center – Crisis Stabilization Unit (PEC-CSU) and the Ridgecrest CSU (Ridgecrest Mental Health Urgent Care Center) are the designated facilities to receive involuntary psychiatric holds from law enforcement and staff designated by KernBHRS. The Ridgecrest CSU serves the communities of East Kern. Individuals may be voluntarily admitted to the Bakersfield PEC-CSU or the Ridgecrest CSU during a crisis. The PEC-CSUs determine if there is a need for hospitalization or if the individual can be treated and released back to the community. Discharge from the CSUs is coordinated with the individual's current service provider for the community release or as a notification that the individual was admitted to a psychiatric inpatient facility. During the period of July 2018 to May 31, 2019 the Ridgecrest CSU did not provide services to any AB109 identified individuals.

Between July 2018 and May 31, 2019, the Bakersfield PEC-CSU provided 422 services to 224 individuals in crisis who were designated with an AB109 client category. Many of these individuals had more than a single crisis encounter during the fiscal year. These services contribute to the impaction of this 24-hour facility.



#### **Housing Support Services:**

Homelessness is a significant barrier for individuals re-entering the community after incarceration. A welcoming, recovery-oriented home environment is important for successful reintegration back into the community. The Housing Services Team (HST) coordinates KernBHRS' housing subsidy assistance services and assists teams with identifying emergency and temporary shelter placements. This assistance allows individuals to focus on participating in outpatient treatment to include the goal of planning for permanent housing. KernBHRS secured \$70,200 AB109 FY2018/19 Growth funds for short-term emergency housing targeting individuals released from jail and/or hospitalization who would be homeless upon discharge.

Kern Linkage	AB109 Totals		Housing Services Team	AB109 Totals	
July 1,2018 - May 31,2019	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019	July 1, 2018 - May 31,2019	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
Client Vouchers Processed	126	101	Claims Processed	8	20
Days Vouchered	3,399	2,484	Individual Clients Processed	7	11
Unique Client Count	30	34			
Amount Spent	\$81,812.57	\$58,462.07	Amount Spent	\$4,502.92	\$12,481.70

In addition to housing, the Housing Services Team monitors Packed for Recovery, a new program that was implemented as a one-time resource for individuals exiting homelessness, incarceration, in-patient facilities. This program is especially beneficial to individuals leaving the correctional setting. The lack of necessary items at the time of release can be a large hurdle for both the client and staff working with them during this transition period. The Packed for Recovery Program also helps to reduce the stigma and discrimination against the mentally ill and co-occurring individuals by eliminating one of the barriers to their entry into sober living homes or other appropriate housing option.

From February 12 through May 31<sup>st</sup> 2019, ATT staff provided 68 AB109 clients with an initial duffel bag containing hygiene products such as soap, shampoo, lotion, toothbrush, toothpaste, brush, towels, clothing items, snacks, sweat pants/shirt, pajamas, blanket, notebook, pens, granola bars, and water. They provided 62 AB109 clients with their second package which included a mesh laundry bag with undergarments, shirts, jeans, shoes, and a sweater tailored to their size.

KernBHRS Housing Services will continue to develop strategies to increase safe and stable housing options for individuals being discharged from jail, a population recognized as underserved and most in need.

#### **Moving Forward**

KernBHRS continues to expand and shape services for AB109 assigned individuals, with a focus on the recommendations outlined in the CCP Strategic Plan, the Kern County Stepping Up Initiative, and with consideration for capacity and service needs identified by the department.

Kern County has been identified to receive funds from the California Department of State Hospitals to reduce Felony Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) placements by 20% over a three-year period. The program will further expand the need for housing and other coordinated services in the community. The

program will focus services on individuals with the highest criminogenic risk and those that are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

#### Fiscal Year 19/20 Spending Plan:

In FY 2019/20, KernBHRS has been designated to receive \$6,090,885.00 in Public Safety Realignment funding to support mental health and substance use disorder programming and administration. Over the past year, the department has experienced changes in personnel and contracts, making it necessary for funding shifts to support costs associated with in-custody mental health and crisis services. For the next year, KernBHRS proposes to allocate costs as outlined in the chart below. KernBHRS will continue to identify ways to improve upon the programs established for the AB109 population. Additionally, KernBHRS will continue to develop, implement, and monitor data collection methodologies to maximize resources and funding available.

# KERN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES AB109 BUDGET JUSTIFICATION/SPENDING PLAN FY 2019/20

Salaries and Benefits				
Service	Position	FTE	Annual Cost	
	Behavioral Health Nurse I/II	2	381,494.31	
	BH Recovery Specialist I/II/III	9	1,190,257.92	
Correctional Behavioral Health-Jail Personnel	BH Therapist I/II	7	1,212,709.12	
r lealth-ball r ersonner	BH Unit Supervisor I/II	1	212,140.88	
	Office Services Technician	4	309,695.29	
	Licensed Vocational Nurse I/II	8	872,773.35	
	Substance Use Disorder Specialist	4	432,641.08	
Administration	739,661.87			
Contracted Services				
Adult SOC Contractors			650,000.00	
Housing Contractors	122,000.00			
Pharmacy Contractors	158,950.00			
Total Projected Expenditures	\$6,282,323.82			
<b>CCP Base Allocations to Ker</b>	\$6,090,885.00			
Total Projected Expenditures (*KernBHRS to absorb this projection)	-\$191,438.00			

KernBHRS continues to plan to absorb any expenditure exceeding allocations to provide the most comprehensive treatment services for this population.

## Employers' Training Resource

As previously reported by Employers' Training Resource (ETR), the State of California instituted a new case management system, CalJOBS, for workforce development agencies. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, ETR officially began transitioning our non-WIOA case management to the CalJOBS system. The Client Services division at ETR has been tirelessly working to learn and adapt to the new system, as well as continuing to provide the same high level of support for the clients.

The GED testing center at the Beale Memorial Library has continued to grow and be successful. Proctors at the testing center have administered 573 test modules in the first three quarters of the 2018-2019 fiscal year – more than double the number of modules from this time last year.

Earlier this year, ETR identified some issues with participant referrals – encountering a high number of referred participants who did not appear at their appointments or who did not make contact with caseworkers. Working with partners at Kern County Probation and the Kern County Sheriff's Office, a meeting was convened to identify potential solutions to this issue. Acting on advice from representatives from the Electronic Monitoring Program and the Lerdo Facility's Population Management section, new marketing materials were produced that more clearly promote the services offered to formerly-incarcerated individuals.

The pre-release job readiness class, Job Readiness AJCC, covers a wide range of topics and barriers justice-involved individuals will face once they're released from the Lerdo facility. The Job Developer collocated at the Lerdo Facility uses motivational interviewing techniques to objectively assess and identify participants who would most benefit from the job readiness class. Once in the class, inmates receive information on soft skills, how to answer tough interview questions, legal questions about their offender status during the hiring process and are challenged to craft a 30-second summary to "sell" themselves to an employer. The inmates are given the opportunity to have a professional résumé drafted by a Job Developer and complete a master job application and reference list.

Post-release, the formerly-incarcerated individuals have the option of taking the Positive Steps to Employment class, which complements the Job Readiness AJCC class and gives the individuals access to computers for them to complete job searches, with or without assistance, and update their résumé.

Building upon the collaboration with the Sheriff's Office and Probation, ETR has scheduled a meeting with the Community-Based Organization (CBO) partners to discuss ideas for increasing show rates at appointments. One of the strategies identified was to seek permission from each of the sober living environment partners to allow ETR staff to come in and conduct outreach activities on site on a recurring basis. An additional strategy that ETR is researching is to increase the frequency of WESTEC training classes available for formerly-incarcerated individuals. Garden Pathways currently facilitates WESTEC classes on the 1st and 15th of every month, but the demand is greater than they are presently able to accommodate. This recognizes and addresses the barriers and limited timeframe formerly-incarcerated individuals are facing.

Another issue identified is the difficulty formerly-incarcerated individuals face when obtaining replacement I9/Right to Work (RTW) documents, like a California Drivers' License or ID card and Social Security card. As possession of current and valid RTW documents is required for employment services, this is a serious barrier not only to unsubsidized employment, but work experience and other subsidized employment opportunities as well. Since identifying this issue, work has begun on an agreement with

the Social Security Administration that would streamline the process for clients to obtain their Social Security card.

In addition to partnerships with Sheriff, Probation, and CBOs, ETR has committed to sharing information and resources with Bakersfield Adult School (BAS). ETR and BAS already collaborate on Café 1600, the student-run café at the southwest location of America's Job Center of California. Some of Café 1600's students are formerly-incarcerated individuals and would greatly benefit from the resources and programs ETR can offer. It will also allow ETR to build upon the already established relationship between Sheriff and BAS and explore the possibility of segueing participants from the Blue Room, the culinary program at the Lerdo Facility, to Café 1600 at ETR, and finally into work experience or job placement.

The budget below reflects the activities and strategies ETR plans to follow over the course of Program year 2019-2020. The increase in staff salaries and time is due to the expected increase in participants from the closer partnership ETR is developing with Sheriff, Probation, CBOs, and BAS.

**Program Staff** 

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POSITION	NUMBER	FTE	YEARLY COST		
Office Services Technician	3	.13	\$9,789		
Program Support Supervisor	2	.11	\$13,232		
Program Coordinator	2	.06	\$7,966		
Program Specialist	4	1.9	\$204,667		
Job Developer	1	1	\$102,165		
Senior Office Services Specialist	1	.03	\$2,716		

#### **Administrative Staff**

POSITION	NUMBER	FTE	YEARLY COST
Sr. Workforce Development Analyst	1	.01	\$1,677
Accountant 3	1	.05	\$6,364
Accountant 1	1	.01	\$1,285
Administrative Coordinator	1	.02	\$2,707
Business Manager	1	.04	\$5,878
Departmental Analyst	1	.75	\$74,156
Supervising Departmental Analyst	1	.11	\$13,733
Assistant CAO	1	.01	\$3,908
Deputy Director	2	.04	\$7,222
Monitors	2	.05	\$4,893
System Analyst	1	.07	\$8,711
Fiscal Support	2	.07	\$5,901

Program Staff Salaries	\$340,535
Administrative Staff Salaries	\$136,435
OJTs/Training	\$50,000
Supportive Services	\$12,899
Overhead	\$80,000
TOTAL	\$619,869

## **District Attorney's Office**

The District Attorney's Office continues to experience significant increases in both misdemeanor and felony jury trials. These increases continue to put a strain on the ability of the District Attorney's Office to properly prepare each case. In having less time to prepare, some cases may not receive the attention they deserve.

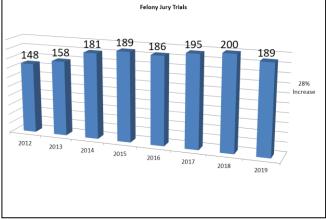
The first graph shows the increase misdemeanor jury trials from 2012 through an estimate for 2019. The misdemeanor unit increase of almost 100% has continued to put a strain on the misdemeanor unit. As AB 109 and Proposition 47 shifted many cases from felony misdemeanor, the increase in jury trials followed.

The second graph demonstrates the increase in felony jury trials from 2012 through an estimate for 2019. This 28% increase has created a tremendous workload on the already overworked trial units. The general felony unit in particular has faced the biggest increase due to AB 109 and the dramatic increase in trials reflects the added work required from the deputy district attorneys assigned to that unit.

The effects of AB 109 and Proposition 47 continue to manifest themselves within various areas of the District Attorney's Office. This has created a very dynamic environment in which we strive to manage and contain the increases with minimal

Misdemeanor Jury Trials

80 85 94 102 110 112 113 96% Increase



staffing increases. Although the increased staffing from prior years has helped to address some of the changes, we continue to experience heavy workloads throughout the office which is taxing on staff and at peak times results in the use of overtime to meet legal deadlines. Increasing costs that exceed the increasing appropriations requires the District Attorney to absorb unfunded costs within the department's budget, which creates additional operational challenges to meet budget guidelines. Further gaps in funding could result in the reduction of funded positions in future years.

The total request from the Community Corrections Partnership is \$1,922,492. The District Attorney's proposal is to receive 4.28% of the overall base allocation, which is slightly less than FY 18/19 to accommodate for the addition of the Veterans Service Department to the county-wide base allocation. As staffing and benefits costs have gone up faster than the available appropriations, the District Attorney's Office does request that when/if additional funds become available, they are considered for additional funding. This request represents the minimum amount necessary to maintain the existing level of service within the District Attorney's Office and the Kern Regional Crime Laboratory, in order to ensure the public safety needs of the citizens of Kern County are met.

Position/Item	#	Salary	Benefits	Total
Deputy District Attorney IV	4	\$135,000	\$97,000	\$928,000
Deputy District Attorney III	2	\$115,000	\$80,000	\$390,000
Legal Secretary	1	\$53,000	\$42,000	\$95,000
Criminalist	1	\$93,000	\$77,000	\$170,000
Complaint Attorney	1	\$154,000	\$91,000	\$245,000
Total Personnel	9			\$1,828,000
Recurring costs, phones, computers, licensing, Internet access, cell phones, vehicles, office furniture, training, Bar dues, MCLE, office supplies, etc.				\$94,492
Total				\$1,922,492

## **Public Defender's Office**

#### Realignment has Profoundly Impacted Public Defender Workload

The overwhelming majority of criminal defendants are indigent, and the Public Defender represents a significant portion of these persons. Our mandate is Constitutional and statutory. Under the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution, persons accused of committing crimes, who cannot afford to hire private counsel, are entitled to appointed counsel. Pursuant to California Government Code § 27706, the Public Defender is charged with representation of persons qualifying for appointed counsel.

The Public Defender's approved FY 2019/20 allocation equals \$961,246, or 50% of the amount appropriated to the prosecution, \$1,922,492. The amount is intended to help our department keep comparative pace with the tenacious, aggressive, determined and professional efforts of our counterparts in the criminal justice system, the District Attorney.

#### Guiding Principles of Fairness Support the Department's Allocation

Fairness and a "balanced allocation of resources" within the criminal justice system are recognized and operate as the controlling moral imperatives. Kern County Strategic Plan (2008), Section I, p. 5, Keeping Our Communities Safe; ABA Ten Principles of a Defense Delivery System (2002), p.3: "There should be parity of workload, salaries, and other resources (such as benefits, technology, facilities, legal research, support staff, paralegals, investigators, and access to forensic services and experts) between prosecution and public defense."

The Public Defender and the defense roles are to a large extent reactive. Consequently, the impact of Realignment on the department reflects and is directly traceable to the District Attorney's work. Specifically, with the exception of dependency, mental health and conservatorship work, the Public Defender's workload is predominantly a function of law enforcement activity in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting suspected offenders. As noted, while the Public Defender does not defend all cases the District Attorney prosecutes,<sup>1</sup> the Public Defender represents the significant majority of alleged offenders.

Moreover, while the District Attorney's office performs certain functions with no analog to the defense (e.g., review and filing of complaints), so too the Public Defender performs work not visited on our prosecutorial counterparts. For example, lawyers with the Public Defender's office must investigate their own cases, while law enforcement often provides a completed investigation for the prosecutor. Separately, deputy public defenders are expected to and spend substantial time and energy interviewing and advising every client, including those housed at pretrial and correctional holding facilities.

County of Kern-Public Safety Realignment Plan for FY 2019/20

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Some criminal defendants possess sufficient resources to hire their own counsel and, in other cases including co-defendant cases, the Public Defender has a conflict of interest which compels appointment of alternate counsel.

#### **Historical and Comparative Analyses Support the Department's Allocation**

Prior years' budget and resource allocations provide historical and objective evidence regarding institutional judgments involving fairness in the funding of the defense and prosecutorial functions.

#### **Budget Comparison (Total Appropriations)**

Fiscal Year	District Attorney	Public Defender	Public Defender Budget as % of District Attorney Budget
2018-2019	\$36,770,118	\$16,780,553	45.6%
2017-2018	\$35,922,203	\$17,065,861	47.5%
2016-2017	\$36,416,716	\$17,161,248	47.1%
2015-2016	\$37,106,125	\$17,339,216	46.7%
2014-2015	\$35,665,962	\$16,645,387	46.7%
2013-2014	\$34,441,499	\$16,842,568	48.9%
2012-2013	\$31,529,130	\$15,229,863	48.3%
2011-2012	\$28,425,82	\$13,973,886	49.2%
2010-2011	\$28,925,968	\$14,398,505	49.8%

#### **Budget Comparison (Net General Fund Cost)**

Fiscal Year	District Attorney	Public Defender	Public Defender Budget as % of District Attorney Budget
2018-2019	\$16,438,507	\$8,043,978	48.9%
2017-2018	\$16,811,978	\$8,207,173	48.8%
2016-2017	\$16,915,175	\$8,504,844	50.3%
2015-2016	\$18,409,077	\$9,832,842	53.4%
2014-2015	\$17,820,311	\$9,558,264	53.6%
2013-2014	\$18,468,600	\$9,863,393	53.4%
2012-2013	\$17,196,243	\$9,206,471	53.4%
2011-2012	\$16,900,615	\$9,065,080	53.6%
2010-2011	\$17,205,566	\$9,378,350	54.5%

#### Implementation Plan

It is not possible to precisely align or attribute a particular defendant or crime to Realignment. Consequently, the department utilizes the AB 109 allocation to meet – as effectively as we can – the department's significant Realignment driven caseload. Graphical depiction of the approximate/equivalent funding capacity provided by the department's allocation is as follows:

Position Title	Number (A)	Salary (B)	Benefits (C)	Total(D) = (A)x[(B)+(C)]
Deputy Public Defender III	4	\$102,838	\$74,171	\$708,036
Senior Public Defender Investigator	1	\$88,989	\$66,167	\$155,156
Office Services Technician (OST)	1	\$36,262	\$35,696	\$71,958
Office Expenses (vehicles, travel, licensing, phones, office supplies, Bar dues, computers, etc.)				\$26,096
Total				\$961,246

#### <u>Material Disclosures - Consistent with Prior Years</u>

- 1) <u>Use of Funds</u>: Pen. Code §1230(b)(3) provides in relevant part that AB 109 funds shall be used to provide supervision and rehabilitative services for adult felony offenders. As in prior years, the department's intended use of the funds relies on the understanding that legal advocacy and representation of indigent individuals in criminal proceedings may be appropriately characterized as involving rehabilitative efforts and services.
- 2) <u>Supplemental versus Supplanting</u>: Pen. Code §1233.7 provides that AB 109 monies shall be used to supplement, not supplant, any other state or county appropriation. The department is informed and believes the CAO's recommended Net General Fund Contributions are calculated without regard to whether or not departments receive an AB 109 allocation. Consequently, the department's allocation request reflects supplemental rather than supplanting funding. (Compare to a situation where the recommended contribution was reduced dollar-for-dollar based on any subsequently obtained allocation).
- 3) <u>Accounting of Funds</u>: If approved, the department intends to again apply the AB 109 funds on a pro-rata (i.e., quarterly) basis. As noted, while the department recognizes a significant caseload is attributable to Realignment, it is impossible to identify all cases or alleged crimes caused by Realignment.

## Street Interdiction Team (SIT)

The Street Interdiction Team (SIT) is a multi-departmental law enforcement task force consisting of numerous law enforcement agencies throughout the County of Kern. SIT periodically plans and operates enforcement teams in different regional areas to address specific community needs.

Though SIT was previously functional, with the advent of AB 109, it was reactivated to address street-level crime. With the funds made available through the CCP, SIT operates in Kern County cities such as Arvin, Bakersfield, California City, Delano, McFarland, Ridgecrest, Shafter, Taft, and Tehachapi. In order to affectively address street-level crime, SIT does the following:

- Focuses on improving collaborations with law enforcement agencies throughout Kern County
- > Establishes front-line operations in cities and towns throughout Kern County
- Meets on a monthly basis to discuss current AB 109 activities and impacts

Fiscal year 2018/19 was an active year for SIT with a total of 14 operations (13 days, 130 hours) in seven (7) cities as of May 31, 2019. Cities of operation included Bakersfield, California City, Delano, Ridgecrest, Taft, and Tehachapi with some hosting multiple SIT operations throughout the year. Hosting law enforcement agencies networked with other county law enforcement agencies, and also teamed up with agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, U.S. Marshals, and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Participating agencies that are part of the Memorandum of Understanding with the County were reimbursed for overtime in relation to AB 109 SIT operations. Outside agencies that assist SIT gladly provide assistance at no charge.

Depending on criminal activity and need, SIT teams have conducted multiple operations in a specific area over a short period of time. This has provided for a successful showing of force and cooperation throughout Kern County. SIT operations draw an assembly of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies who provide a multitude of experience, information, and resources to ensure the most effective regional policing strategies. SIT offers regional law enforcement agencies some relief in addressing AB 109 impacts and pooling resources for intelligence gathering, leveraging of resources, and agency collaboration and cooperation in tracking offenders as they move throughout Kern County and the State. As a result, the decline of criminal activity has been noticeable following the utilization of these operations. As of May 31, 2019, SIT operations had 434 planned targets; 138 arrests; multiple weapons seized including guns, brass knuckles, and ammunition; varying amounts of marijuana, methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, prescription drugs, and drug paraphernalia seized. The total request from the Community Corrections Partnership is \$305,443.

## Community-Based Organizations (CBO) Program

In FY 2012/13, the CCP allocated a total of \$983,304 to CBOs through a competitive Request for Applications (RFA) process to assist in the overall success of Realignment in Kern County. This process focused on reentry services such as residential/transitional housing, employment and educational programs, and case management services. Residential/transitional housing programs create a structured living environment for individuals reentering the community, employment and educational programs provide individuals with valuable tools to succeed in the workplace, and case management services develop and maintain case plans for individuals. In 2013, the CCP voted to extend these contracts for another two years, for an additional \$3,387,608.

In FY 2015/16, the CCP released a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) in the amount of \$5,102,115 seeking qualified organizations to provide community-based services for AB 109 individuals in Kern County. This process focused on sobriety and recovery support; providing a continuum of care between in-custody services and community-based services; educational, employment, and/or vocation services; transitional housing; transportation support services; Medi-Cal/ACA enrollment assistance; and other evidence-based programs, proven practices, and/or best practices aimed at reducing recidivism. There were six (6) CBO's that were awarded 35-month contracts.

In addition to AB 109 funding, the California State Budget Acts of 2014 and 2015 allocated a total of \$12 million to California counties to fund local Community Recidivism Reduction Grants as defined in Penal Code Section 1233.10. Kern County received a total of \$375,000 from the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to fund community recidivism and crime reduction services for the adult offender population.

In order to distribute funds to the appropriate entities, a Request for Applications (RFA) specifying the County's requirements was prepared and distributed in September 2015. The funding was allocated to nongovernmental entities with a maximum of \$50,000 per entity per funding year. The County could withhold up to 5 percent of the total County allocation for administrative costs equating to \$18,750, leaving a remaining balance of \$356,250 available to award to eligible applicants. This funding provided services in the following areas: SLE housing, case management, mentoring, Medi-Cal/ACA enrollment, GED preparation, and DUI education.

On June 28, 2018, the CCP released a competitive RFP totaling \$5,531,091 which resulted in multiple contracts for calendar years 2019-2021. On October 4, 2018, the CCP awarded contracts to the following organizations providing services to male and female offenders reentering the community through SLEs, educational, employment, and/or vocation services, DUI education, and case management services:

- Bakersfield Recovery Services
- Freedom House Transitional Housing
- Garden Pathways, Inc.
- Minnie Marvels Sober Living for Women and Children
- New Life Recovery and Training Center
- Positive Visions for Men, Inc.

- Special Treatment Education & Prevention Services, Inc.
- WestCare California, Inc.

To ensure the CBO's success in providing streamlined services, the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and KernBHRS continue working in conjunction by doing the following:

- Monthly collaborative meetings
- ➤ Bi-Annual individual CBO meetings
- Annual individual CBO meetings
- Monitoring data tracker elements and quarterly reporting
- > CBO provider trainings
- Exchange of key information for improved offender services
- > Tracking drug testing
- Encouraging CBO representatives to interview potential candidates at the Lerdo Detention Facility
- ➤ Fostering an open line of communication and addressing provider's question, concerns, and request as they arise
- ➤ Monthly and/or quarterly site visits to CBOs in order to monitor contracts

The CBO Program is designed in a way that provides flexibility to react to the needs of the community and respond under the direction of the Executive Committee. The CBOs have assisted the Probation Department, Sheriff's Office, and KernBHRS in creating and improving a continuum of care, allowing offenders to receive much needed services, and provided 52,943 bed days in calendar year 2018. This has saved millions of dollars in incarceration costs, and provided housing, case management, employment and educational services.

The CCP continues to focus on utilizing CBOs to help offenders gain access to the services and tools they need to become productive citizens of the community. The CCP is committed to the partnership with the CBOs and together making Kern County a safer place to live. The total request from the Community Corrections Partnership is \$1,226,262 for a future CBO Program. Although the current CBO contracts have just begun, it is imperative to begin planning and funding the next three-year RFP, in order to provide as many valuable services as possible.

## Veterans Service Department - Veterans Justice Outreach

After a successful two-year pilot program that targeted services to justice involved veterans and their families, the Veterans Service Department (VSD) has been granted a set percentage of the Realignment base allocation. As we begin our third year with dedicated staff to work with this underserved population, we look forward to expanding the relationships we have already developed and growing new relationships to help reduce the recidivism rates in the veteran population.

According to a 2015 report published by the U.S. Department of Justice, 8% of all inmates in State and federal custody were veterans, and of that number, over 80% served their country honorably. It is because of their honorable service that those veterans (and their dependents) may be entitled to federal, State, and local benefits that can make a profound difference for their future. With the help of a dedicated Veterans Service Representative (VSR), the VSD is able to educate and advocate for those veterans and their dependents. Additionally, the VSD is able to provide a consistent point of contact for these individuals as they navigate an already confusing system.

The primary focus of the VSD is to connect veterans and their families with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits, specifically service-connected compensation and non-service-connected pension. Through both of these benefits, a veteran has access to VA healthcare and a variety of other benefits. With the help of the Sheriff's Office and the detention deputies at the Lerdo Detention Facility, our VSR has assisted 18 veterans file successful claims with the VA in fiscal year 17/18 and 19 claims in fiscal year 18/19. These claims have provided those veterans with additional monetary benefits, and access to a host of other benefits. For veterans already in receipt of VA benefits at the time of conviction, it is likely that an overpayment of benefits will result, which adversely impacts the veteran's family. As such, the VSR is able to mitigate this financial hardship by timely notifying the VA of the veteran's incarceration to avoid an extended overpayment of benefits and request an apportionment of the veteran's benefit to be provided to the family during the veteran's incarceration. In fiscal year 17/18, the VSD assisted 8 families to limit the impact of the overpayment and to reallocate those benefits; and in fiscal year 18/19, 20 such families were assisted.

The secondary focus of the VSD is to connect veterans and their dependents with community service providers when the veteran's need exceeds our service capabilities. The VSR will continue to be a primary point of contact for the veteran, but with a soft handoff to our community partners, we can eliminate one potential barrier to accessing those benefits. We partner with California Veterans Assistance Foundation to help veterans find transitional housing, the VA outpatient clinic to connect veterans to primary healthcare and substance abuse treatment, and Employers Training Resource to help veterans find employment post incarceration.

As we begin the third year of working with this population, we look forward to strengthening our relationship with the staff of the Kern Justice Facility, which began housing inmates in May of 2018. The VSD is also looking to expand our partner agencies, specifically with the Probation Department. Presently, the VSD is able to connect with some veterans at the early stages of their time with the justice system, but we do not connect with all of them. For those veterans that do not find their way to us, the VSD is looking forward to working with Probation utilizing a data sharing system, relying on the offender

needs assessment Probation conducts, to help identify the services the VSD can provide to these veterans to help reduce recidivism rates among veterans. We are also looking at ways to partner with Behavior Health and Recovery Services to ensure that the veterans have access to the care that will best suit their individual needs.

The budget below reflects the activities and strategies the VSD will follow over the course of the 19/20 fiscal year.

Position/Item	Total	
Veterans Service Representative		\$108,774
Vehicle, fuel, office expenses/supplies, etc		\$3,093
Support Personnel		
Position	FTE	
County Veterans Service Officer	0.01	\$1,868
Administrative Coordinator	0.01	\$1,150
Supervising Veterans Service Representative	0.03	\$3,601
Program Specialist (employment services)	0.025	\$2,793
	Subtotal	\$9,412
Total		\$121,279

## **Contingency Funds**

The plan calls for the unallocated money, in the amount of \$58,393, to be placed in the contingency fund for unexpected expenses and/or additional items the CCP chooses to fund.

## **Allocation of Realignment Funds**

The CCP has spent numerous hours developing a plan that addresses the pressing issues of Realignment in Kern County. In order to achieve the goals, the allocation of AB 109 funds is based on the CCP's plan as described herein utilizing the FY 2019/20 allocation from the State of California.

The base allocation amounts for FY 2019/20 totals \$44,918,032.

<u>Department/Entity</u>	Base Allocation <u>%</u>	FY 2019/20  Base Allocation
Sheriff's Office	39.27%	\$17,639,311
Probation Department	35.56%	\$15,972,852
Behavioral Health & Recovery Services	13.56%	\$6,090,885
District Attorney's Office	4.28%	\$1,922,492
CBO Program	2.73%	\$1,226,262
Public Defender's Office	2.14%	\$961,246
Employers' Training Resource	1.38%	\$619,869
Street Interdiction Team	0.68%	\$305,443
Veterans Service	0.27%	\$121,279
Contingency	0.13%	\$58,393
Total Base Allocation	100%	\$44,918,032